

# **NEWS FROM SCDCA**

# SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Carri Grube Lybarker, Administrator



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Email: JHarris@scconsumer.gov

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SCDCA's Regulatory Filings Reach 2008 Levels

**Columbia, SC...** The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) is releasing its Fiscal Year 2014 Accountability Report. This report contains 70 measurements on SCDCA's activity occurring from July 1, 2013- June 30, 2014.

One of the most notable trends includes an increase in the amount of regulatory filings received. SCDCA processed nearly **27,000** licensing applications and filings, approximately **4,000** more than the year prior. This is the largest number processed since 2008.

#### Other important benchmarks include:

- A 40% increase in the number of enforcement actions initiated by SCDCA;
- A **50%** increase in the amount of presentations held, reaching nearly **15,000** consumers and businesspersons;
- Implementation of a new, Online Complaint System resulting in a 60% decrease in paper copies made and a reduction in the average complaint processing time from 45 to 25 days;
- Saving consumers and businesses more than \$1.8 million in credits refunds and
  adjustments through complaint mediation, enforcement activities and
  intervention in insurance rate filings;

To view the report in its entirety, visit SCDCA's website <u>www.consumer.sc.gov</u>, and click on News Release and Publications, then Agency Reports.

SCDCA aims to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, complaint mediation, enforcement and education. To file a complaint or get information on consumer issues, visit <a href="https://www.consumer.sc.gov">www.consumer.sc.gov</a> or call toll-free, 1.800.922.1594.

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